

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting, comprising a step of: heating under atmospheric pressure a light alloy casting up to a solid solution range and maintaining it at such heating temperature T; and a step of quenching the light alloy casting through a cooling medium while pressurizing it, wherein the step of quenching is carried out under the application of pressure P in a range of 10,000 psi < P ≤ 29,000 psi.
2. **(Original)** A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting according to claim 1, wherein the heating temperature T is set at  $T > T_S$ , wherein  $T_S$  represents a solidus-line temperature for a light alloy forming the light alloy casting.

Claims 3-4. **(Cancelled)**